

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2194,  
COMPREHENSIVE IRAN SANCTIONS,  
ACCOUNTABILITY, AND  
DIVESTMENT ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

**HON. RICK LARSEN**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 24, 2010*

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for the conference report on H.R. 2194, the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability, and Divestment Act of 2010.

Iran is a threat to regional security and stability. It has flouted international law and supplied weapons to terrorist groups throughout the Middle East.

Upon taking office in 2009, President Barack Obama attempted to engage with Iran, including offering a deal which would have allowed Iran to receive nuclear fuel for peaceful purposes. However, Iran has spurned these good-faith efforts at engagement, and the time has come to put in place comprehensive sanctions.

The international community supports our efforts to isolate Iran through sanctions. President Obama secured a landmark sanctions agreement at the United Nations Security Council several weeks ago. The European Union took further action earlier this month when it agreed to impose stringent sanctions on Iran.

This bill goes even further than the UN and the EU—it is a comprehensive and stringent package of sanctions. Among many important provisions, it will prohibit investment in Iran's oil refining industry and create a legal framework for companies and investment managers who wish to divest from companies doing business with Iran. It will force many companies to answer a question—do I work with the U.S., or do I work with Iran?

I urge my colleagues to join with me in passing H.R. 2194 and sending a clear message to Iran that their provocative actions and reckless pursuit of a nuclear weapon will not be tolerated.

HONORING THE LIFE OF FRANK  
PELLEGRINI

**HON. STEVE ISRAEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 28, 2010*

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Frank Pellegrini, who passed away on March 25, 2010.

Frank touched the lives of people all over Long Island and he will be remembered as a man who showed grace and humility in all aspects of his life. For 40 years, he worked at Farmingdale State College where he served thousands of students and teachers through his roles as an Organic Chemistry teacher and then the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Frank also served for 35 years as the Chief and Commissioner of the Dix Hills Fire Department where his heroic efforts touched the lives of countless members of the community. Frank possessed extreme bravery and a passion for helping others.

Frank Pellegrini will be remembered by all who were fortunate enough to know him, and his memory will remain a fixture in both institutions where he served for so long.

HOME ENERGY CONSERVATION  
BONDS

**HON. JIM McDERMOTT**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 28, 2010*

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, the main obstacles facing homeowners who want to make their homes more energy efficient are the initial costs and poor access to capital. The legislation I am introducing will give the authority to issues bonds to states and large localities allowing them to issue loans for residential energy efficiency improvements. This legislation will significantly help homeowners who want to renovate their homes for increased energy efficiency. Home Energy Conservation Bonds will help homeowners overcome the upfront capital costs of energy efficiency retrofits, allowing homeowners to drastically reduce their energy and water consumption and pay less each month for their utilities. Only through addressing efficiency and conservation in existing homes will we be able to fully address our nation's addiction to energy. Renovating homes for increased energy efficiency provides a critical economic infusion, helps create new jobs and stimulate local economies. I look forward to working with my colleagues to realize that goal.

HARBOR MAINTENANCE TRUST  
FUND IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2010

**HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 28, 2010*

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund Improvement Act of 2010. This bill would strengthen our national economy and international competitiveness.

Our harbors are economic engines for our nation. Because more than 95 percent of overseas trade moves in and out of the United States by ship, harbor infrastructure is vital to the American economy.

Moreover, our harbors create a substantial amount of revenue through the Harbor Maintenance Tax. The tax is imposed on importers and domestic shippers based upon the value of their cargo and is deposited in the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund.

Fund money is designated for recovering operation and maintenance costs at US coastal and Great Lakes Harbors, particularly for dredging. Yet, our harbors only receive a fraction of the revenue they create. Revenue deposited into the fund far exceeds transfers out of the fund. This led to a balance of almost \$5 billion at the end of fiscal year 2009.

At the same time, the global economic crisis has hit our harbors and many are struggling to make ends meet. It is only fair to give back to our harbors in their times of need. That's why the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund Improvement Act would expand our harbors' ability to

make use of Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund money. The bill would allow them to use the revenue they create not only for maintenance and dredging needs but also for the costs of Environmental Impact Statements for navigation projects.

Environmental Impact Statements are required whenever the Corps of Engineers is involved in harbor maintenance and development efforts. The Statements serve the federal mission of taking environmental effects of a project into account. Use of Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund resources for this purpose is appropriate and long overdue. Harbors would be relieved of these costs, while the federal mission of assessing the environmental impact of such projects is strengthened.

Please join me in helping our harbors with this sensitive relief. I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this important bill.

GEOTHERMAL ENERGY  
INVESTMENT ACT

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 28, 2010*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the Geothermal Energy Investment Act. This legislation will extend a 30 percent investment tax credit for geothermal energy through December 31, 2016, providing parity with the solar investment tax credit. This longer-term incentive will support substantial growth in utility scale geothermal power, distributed on-site power generation, and heating for buildings and commercial processes, while using clean and renewable American energy.

Geothermal energy facilities supply environmentally-friendly baseload power while producing very low emissions. Once installed, geothermal power is incredibly reliable, with average availabilities of 90 percent or higher (compared to about 75 percent for coal plants). The United States has more geothermal capacity than any other country. In fact, if we could recover this entire resource base, our domestic resources are equivalent to a 30,000-year energy supply at our current levels of consumption. Geothermal energy resources are present in all 50 U.S. States today, and in California more than 40 geothermal plants provide nearly five percent of the State's electricity.

To access this capacity, however, developers of this power source need assistance ameliorating the risks associated with geothermal energy investment. While the costs for electricity from geothermal facilities are declining, these installations are complex, long-term projects. There are significant costs involved with the exploration and development of these installations, and significant risks that the forecast resources are unavailable. The short-term incentives currently in the tax code limit long-term efforts to develop these resources.

The legislation also seeks to encourage growth of new geothermal technologies, in particular small power production and direct heat uses. New technology allows geothermal power to be generated and used on-site, such as the new power generation equipment installed at Oregon Institute of Technology.